AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

Docket No.: 21029-00311-US1

- 1. (Original) A method for treating fluids, particularly wastewater, combining steps of coagulation/flocculation, clarification by settling or flotation, with a step of filtration on micro-, ultra-, nano- or hyperfiltration membranes, characterized in that it comprises a double injection of one or more coagulation reagents, respectively 75.0 to 125% of the optimal coagulation dose or dose cancelling the zeta potential (pZ), in a zone located upstream of the clarification step, and 0.1 to 25.0% of the optimal dose cancelling the pZ, in a second zone located upstream of the membrane filtration step.
- 2. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 1, eharacterized in that wherein each coagulation zone is supplied via one or more injection points.
- 3. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in either of the preceding claims, eharacterized in that claim 1, wherein the injection of one or more coagulation reagents is respectively 75.0 to 99.9%, preferably 80.0 to 99.9% upstream of the clarification/flocculation step, and 0.1 to 20.0% upstream of the membrane filtration step.
- 4. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in either of claims 1 and 2, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the injection of one or more coagulation reagents is respectively 90.0 to 99.9% upstream of the clarification step and 0.1 to 10% upstream of the membrane filtration step.
- 5. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, eharacterized in that claim 1, wherein the coagulation reagents consist of a mixture of coagulation reagents.
- 6. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, characterized in that claim 1, wherein the coagulation reagent(s) injected upstream of the

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clarification step are different to the coagulation reagent(s) injected upstream of the membrane filtration step.

- 7. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, eharacterized in that claim 1, wherein the coagulation conditions, particularly the pH, are different for the two coagulation steps.
- 8. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in claim 7, characterized in that wherein said coagulation conditions imply a pH correction upstream of one or of both coagulation steps.
- 9. (Currently amended) The method as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, eharacterized in that claim 1, wherein the membrane wash waters are recirculated upstream of the clarification step.